

Fiscal Year 2009 Business Plan MLRA Soil Survey Region 13 West Virginia Soil Survey Program

OUR MISSION: Providing leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment through a better understanding of soils. We are committed to helping field staff develop and publish quality soil surveys to the Web Soil Survey. Our focus is on making the customer successful, particularly our field service center staff as they work to implement the Farm Bill.

OUR VISION: We want a soil survey program that meets the challenges of the new age where our database is dynamic, technologically advanced, and easily accessible by the public we serve. Above all, we want a program that is truly representative of a \$5 billion asset, our soil survey program.

Soil Survey Priorities for Fiscal Year 2009:

1. Aggressively move forward to complete initial soil mapping on private and tribal lands by FY 2011
2. Increase outreach and workforce diversity of soil survey staff
3. Create a single spatial soils layer (National Soil Geospatial Database - NSGD) that will allow check-out check-in functionality
4. Expand Technical Soil Services and interpretations to support Farm Bill Programs and Homeland Security Plans
5. Complete implementation of the MLRA Soil Survey Restructuring Plan (includes moving MO-13 Office to new location)

Continuing Priorities:

- i. Utilize Long Range Plans to identify and prioritize projects for each MLRA Soil Survey Area that include collection of dynamic soil properties;
- ii. Digital map finishing soil survey maps for public use (digital map finishing centers will begin phasing out during FY 2009 as we move towards a New Print-on-Demand Cartographic Technology); and, develop automated manuscript capability to support states in MO-13;
- iii. Support to states for soil interpretations, new technologies, investigations, lab data, and value added products;
- iv. Consultation with National Cooperative Soil Survey partnership in soil survey activities; and
- v. Training.

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<i>Action Item</i>	<i>Start Date</i>	<i>Ending Date</i>	<i>Responsible Person</i>	<i>Percentage Complete</i>	<i>Comments/ Earmarks</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 1: Aggressively move forward to complete initial and update soil mapping on private lands 					
Objective 1.1: Provide detail opportunities on request					
Virginia:	January 2009	April 2009	Carpenter/Pate	55%	
Idaho:	June 2009	August 2009	Baker/Jones	0%	
Objective 1.2: Provide timely support to SSURGO reviews for Virginia					
	January 2009	September 2009	Prescott/Chase	0%	
Objective 1.3: Complete Final Correlation of National Park Service Lands in New River Gorge National River Area					
	June 2009	September 2009	MLRA-127 Office/O'Neill	50%	
Objective 1.4: Update 320,000 acres in WV					
	October 2008	September 2009	Carpenter/Delp/Bell/Baker/Hoover	20%	
Objective 1.5: Publish Fayette and Raleigh Counties to the Web Soil Survey					
	October 2008	September 2009	MLRA-127 Office/O'Neill/Delp	30%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 2: Increase outreach and workforce diversity of soil survey staff 					
Objective 2.1: Work with WVU Cooperative Extension Service to expand the knowledge and use of the Web Soil Survey by public demonstration and training: St. Mary's; Morgantown; as requested					
	May 2009	July 2009	Carpenter/Delp	0%	
Objective 2.2: Complete <i>Re-Inventing Diversity for Today's USDA Employees</i> training (all hands)					
	November 2008	January 2009	All Hands	100%	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority 3: Create a single spatial soils layer (National Soil Geospatial Database) that will allow check-out check-in functionality 					
Objective 3.1: Complete NSGD pilot project in MMA13-2					
	January 2009	September 2009	Prescott	20%	
Objective 3.2: Correlate soil properties across soil survey areas in West Virginia using statewide SSURGO data					
	Throughout year		MLRA Office Leaders/Staff	20%	
Objective 3.3: Correlate soil properties across state and MLRA boundaries in MO-13 using MO-13 SSURGO layer					
	Throughout year		MLRA Office Leaders/Staff	20%	
Objective 3.4: Publish MO-13 Benchmark Soils Atlas					
	January 2009	September 2009	Prescott/Jones	40%	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Priority 4: Expand Technical Soil Services and interpretations to support Farm Bill Programs and Homeland Security Plans					
Objective 4.1: Certify “Soils of Statewide Importance” with WV State Department of Agriculture					
	February 2009	September 2009	Delp, RSS	0%	
Objective 4.2: Certify “Locally Important Farmland Lists” with each conservation district (as per authority from WV Ag Dept.)					
	May 2009	September 2009	Delp, RSS	0%	
Objective 4.3: Re-issue Technical Soil Services Policy Statement					
	January 2009	January 2009	Carpenter	100%	
Objective 4.4: Provide training and expand the use of Soil Data Viewer and NASIS 6.0 for Resource Soil Scientists					
	OJT – Web-based learning		Staff	0%	
Objective 4.5: Update Section II eFOTG					
	February 2009	September 2009	Delp/RSS	40%	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 5: Complete implementation of the MLRA Soil Survey Restructuring Plan 					
Objective 5.1: Complete project and long-range plans for each MLRA office and make laboratories operational					
	January 2009	May 2009	MLRA SSO Leaders/Carpenter	50%	
Objective 5.2: Work with soil survey staff in Pennsylvania to establish MLRA office in State College (as required)					
	January 2009	August 2009	Craul/Carpenter/White	25%	
Objective 5.3: Establish a Regional Soil Scientist Position at MO-13					
	June 2009	September 2009	Carpenter/Wickey	0%	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 6: Provide assistance and support to Maryland for soil survey projects, new technologies, investigations, lab data, and value-added products for cooperators in keeping with contracted obligations 					
Objective 6.1: Work with new Maryland state soil scientist to implement MLRA concept and work through backlog					
	February 2009	September 2009	Carpenter/Staff	25%	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Priority 7: Consult with National Cooperative Soil Survey partnership in soil survey activities <p>Objective 7.1: Attend National Cooperative Soil Survey Conference and all state work planning conferences</p> <p style="text-align: center;">May 2009 September 2009 Carpenter/staff</p> <p>Objective 7.2: Meet with NCSS partners in WV monthly</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Throughout year Carpenter/Connolly/Thompson 40%</p> Priority 8: Training <p>Objective 8.1: Provide training opportunities for staff through AgLearn, NetMeeting, OJT, and any other method deemed to be needed and effective.</p> <p>Objective 8.2: Serve as a member of the Management of MLRA Soil Surveys Training Cadre</p> <p style="text-align: center;">March 2009 March 2009 Carpenter 100%</p> 					